

**TOWN OF FIFIELD REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF October 17, 2019**

ROLL CALL: The meeting was brought to order on October 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fifield Town Hall. Roll Call: W. Felch, J. Hintz, B. Salm were in attendance. Also present were T. Fleming and three others. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES: A MOTION (Hintz, Salm) was made to accept the Minutes of the October 3, 2019 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried, voice vote (3, 0).

TOWN CREW REPORT: T. Fleming reported the crew installed the culvert on Hemlock Road and about half of the gravel is completed. The "No Wake" buoys have been removed for the winter from the Pike Lake chain. The surveyor has been working on the Dam Road site. Regarding Twin Lakes Road, the crew was attempting to mark problem and non-merchantable trees this week and were stopped by USFS law enforcement. T. Fleming stated he thought W. Felch was going to talk with them; W. Felch stated he had gone on Tuesday to do so but was unable to and found out that the USFS would not accept a check for the timber, it had to be a money order. Another meeting is scheduled for next week; W. Felch will deliver the money order and sign whatever paperwork they require. T. Fleming stated there may be a fine imposed on himself or on the Town of \$500 per tree. W. Felch is still waiting to hear back from the officer.

TREASURER'S REPORT: J. Jontry provided and the Board accepted the September 2019 Treasurer's Report.

PARK FALLS AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATION AND REQUEST FOR ANNUAL DONATION: Tabled as the representative was not in attendance.

SQUAW CREEK UPDATE: W. Felch met with the Forest Service engineer at the site; the creek is a foot and a half higher than usual, above the one-hundred year flood stage. As a result there is a 6" difference in how much water is flowing through. They want to install a 90" temporary culvert to reduce the water pressure and balance the water level, which will incur an additional cost. The road closure is still scheduled for Tuesday to set the crane and the precast footings.

DISCUSS PRELIMINARY 2020 BUDGET AND SCHEDULE PUBLIC MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 7, 2019: The Board reviewed 2020 budget worksheets. T. Fleming asked how much money we would be borrowing next year; W. Felch stated at present there are no plans to borrow any money. W. Felch stated the preliminary budget is currently in balance. J. Hintz stated everything appears to be acceptable.

DRIVEWAY ACCESS PERMITS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: F. Sevcik: Is Cy's Drive maintained only by the Town? Is it a Town road? Where is the documentation that it is a Town road? T. Fleming stated there are minutes from 1994 indicating this. F. Sevcik stated he has an estimate for chip sealing of approximately \$105,000 from Farner. Can the residents do it themselves as a subdivision and pay for it over 20 years through their taxes? W. Felch stated it would have to be done through the Town. B. Salm stated it would need to be put up for bid. R. Schwai: Is there a long-term highway improvement plan? W. Felch stated he has a copy of the five year road plan and it has not been changed yet. J. Hintz stated the current plan ends in 2022. T. Fleming stated the plan will need to be updated prior to applying for the TriD and MLS grants. W. Felch stated the current plan would not need to be included with the 2020 budget as it is already in effect. R. Schwai then stated he had requested an estimate from the surveyor. Is the Town able to place a special assessment on the tax roll for this? F. Sevcik stated if this is a new Town policy then they should assist with the collection for the cost. J. Hintz stated this is a legal aspect that we would need advice on. Lastly, will there be copies of the proposed 2020 Budget prior to the November 7th meeting? W. Felch stated copies will be available prior to the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: The Town received a follow-up letter from Birchland Realty regarding the Neeck property that is for sale. T. Fleming stated it would be a great gravel pit but would not be easily accessible.

REVIEW INVOICES: MOTION (Hintz, Salm) to accept invoices for payment. Motion carried, voice vote (3, 0).

ADJOURN: A MOTION was made at 7:25 p.m. (Salm, Hintz) to adjourn. Motion carried, voice vote (3, 0).

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer J. Jontry, Town Clerk/Treasurer